

## EFFECT OF WEATHER ON CROPS AND FARMING OPERATIONS, JULY-1925

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*General summary.*—The continuation of showery conditions and prevailing warmth were favorable for the growth of crops during July in most Central and Northern States, although it was still too dry in some sections, particularly in the lower Great Plains. Substantial rains improved conditions materially in the western Lake region, and splendid growing weather prevailed in the Middle and North Atlantic States, but it was too warm during part of the month for small grain crops in portions of the Northwest.

In the South, crops made good growth wherever moisture was sufficient, but many sections continued too dry. Rainfall was especially insufficient over a considerable area in the Southeast, including western North Carolina, southwest Virginia, eastern Tennessee, and the northern portions of Georgia and South Carolina. It continued too dry also in parts of the Southwest, particularly in central and southern Texas, but good rains about the close of the month temporarily relieved the situation in most southwestern sections. Over the more western portions of the country conditions were generally favorable, except that during the latter part of the month the prevailing warm, dry weather unfavorably affected crops that were not irrigated. Farm work generally made satisfactory advance, though there was some interruption by rainfall in Central-Northern States.

*Small grains.*—The weather was favorable for threshing winter wheat and this work made good progress. Under the influence of favorable conditions spring wheat continued to make satisfactory advance during the first part of the month, but later it became too dry and warm in some sections and less favorable progress was reported. This was especially true in Minnesota and South Dakota, while some premature ripening was reported in Montana. The crop matured rapidly and harvest was well under way at the close of the month in nearly all sections of the belt, with threshing progressing in the south part. Warm weather in parts of the upper Mississippi Valley was somewhat unfavorable for oats, but with better soil moisture conditions the crop showed improvement in most of the northern part of the country, though there was much complaint of short straw. Rice improved in

Arkansas and the early crop was being harvested in Louisiana, while generally favorable conditions for growth prevailed in California and Texas.

*Corn.*—The weather was generally favorable for the corn crop from the middle and upper Mississippi Valley eastward, except in some local areas where it was too dry. In the Plains States it was less favorable, as considerable areas were adversely affected by insufficient moisture. Conditions were especially favorable in the upper Ohio Valley districts and Middle Atlantic States where frequent showers and favorable warmth promoted rapid growth. At the close of the month there was need of moisture in parts of Iowa and Missouri, and deterioration was reported from many localities of the Plains States, especially in western Kansas and in Oklahoma.

*Cotton.*—In the central and eastern portions of the Cotton Belt rains were generally of a local character during the month, but were mostly sufficient to maintain cotton in a satisfactory state of growth. Some sections, however, were too dry and in these growth was slow. The month was too dry in parts of the western belt, particularly in central and southern Texas where the need of moisture was urgent, and cotton showed much deterioration, while in Oklahoma the latter part of the month was too dry. Rains at the close of the month temporarily relieved the droughty conditions over the southwestern portion of the belt. Cotton made fair progress in the western half and northeastern portion of Texas, and growth was fair to good in most other sections west of the Mississippi River. The weather was unusually favorable for maturing early cotton, and for picking and ginning and this work made rapid advance. In general, weevil and other insect activity was not serious in any section and only local damage was reported.

*Miscellaneous crops.*—With better moisture conditions, pastures showed improvement during the month in Central and Northern States, but it was too dry in most of the South, and rain was needed over much of the Great Plains. Rainfall during the latter part of the month was very beneficial over the southwestern grazing area and west of the Rocky Mountains stock interests in general were favorably affected by the weather. Potatoes did well in the Northeast and were favorably affected by the weather in most of the central valleys. Truck crops needed rain in most of the South.